
By: **Delegate Hubbard**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Release of Vehicle from Impoundment - Proof of Registration**
3 **and Insurance**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that a law enforcement agency that has impounded a
5 vehicle for a violation of State or local law may not release the vehicle to the
6 owner of the vehicle unless the owner provides proof that the vehicle is
7 registered and properly insured; specifying the types of proof of registration an
8 owner may provide; specifying the types of proof of insurance an owner may
9 provide; and generally relating to the release of vehicles from impoundment and
10 proof of registration and insurance.

11 BY adding to

12 Article - Transportation

13 Section 25-401 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 4. Release of Vehicle from
14 Impoundment"

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article - Transportation**

20 SUBTITLE 4. RELEASE OF VEHICLE FROM IMPOUNDMENT.

21 25-401.

22 (A) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT HAS IMPOUNDED A VEHICLE DUE TO
23 A VIOLATION OF STATE OR LOCAL LAW MAY NOT RELEASE THE VEHICLE TO THE
24 OWNER OF THE VEHICLE UNLESS THE OWNER PROVIDES PROOF THAT THE VEHICLE
25 IS REGISTERED AND PROPERLY INSURED.

26 (B) TO PROVE THAT A VEHICLE IS REGISTERED, AN OWNER MAY PROVIDE:

27 (1) A REGISTRATION CARD ISSUED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;

1 (2) COMPUTERIZED PROOF OF REGISTRATION PROVIDED BY THE
2 ADMINISTRATION; OR

3 (3) IF THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE IS A RESIDENT OF ANOTHER STATE,
4 A REGISTRATION CARD OR OTHER WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION
5 ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION
6 IN THE OWNER'S STATE OF RESIDENCE.

7 (C) TO PROVE THAT A VEHICLE IS PROPERLY INSURED, AN OWNER MAY
8 PROVIDE:

9 (1) WRITTEN OR TELEPHONE CONFIRMATION FROM THE OWNER'S
10 INSURANCE COMPANY THAT THE VEHICLE IS INSURED, AS REQUIRED BY § 17-103 OF
11 THIS ARTICLE; OR

12 (2) IF THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE IS A RESIDENT OF ANOTHER STATE,
13 WRITTEN OR TELEPHONE CONFIRMATION THAT THE OWNER HAS COMPLIED WITH
14 THE VEHICLE INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OWNER'S STATE OF RESIDENCE.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
16 effect October 1, 2004.